Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 05194 291820Z ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 IOE-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 L-03 /083 W

-----291824Z 030718 /47

P 291711Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3676

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAID, WFP, UN

SUBJECT: WFP/ SYRIA AND UNRWA

REF: WOLF/ SKILES TELECON

1. THE PROPOSAL FOR WFP TO MAKE AVAILABLE $5{,}000$ TONS SEEMS TO HAVE GONE

NOWHERE. WFP POSITIONIS THAT THEY CAN'T GIVE FOOD TO UNRWA. SYRIA HAD REQUESTED 100,000 TONS TO MAKE UP FOR LOSSES, LABELLLED REFUGEE FEEDING, BUT THIS

WAS NOT A REALISTIC PROPOSAL WHICH WFP COULD ENTERTAIN.
RECENTLY GOS HAS INDICATED IT WOULD SUPPORT THE UNRWA REQUEST FOR
5,000 TONS BUT WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ANY REQUESTS WHICH SYRIA HAS
MADE OR MIGHT MAKE OF WFP, WITH CLEAR IMPLICATION THAT THE OTHER
REQUESTS TAKE PRIORITY (THESE TWO ARE IN TROUBLE BECAUSE SYRIA
ALREADY HAS APPROVALS IN EXCESS OF WHAT IS REGARDED AS A FAIR SHARE),
AND WITHOUT MEETING ANY OF THE REQUIREMENTS RE IDENTIFICATION
AND LOCATION OF RECIPIENTS, ACCOUNTABILITY, SUPERVISION, ETC.
ON WHICH WFP IS REQUIRED TO INSIST. THE US, OF COURSE, IS ONE OF
THE MAJOR ARCHITECTS OF THESE REQUIREMENTS.

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2. (FYI IN A SOMEWHAT ANALOGOUS CASE INVOLVING THE PLO AS A DISTRIBUTION AGENCY THE PROJECT WAS APPROVED WHEN IT WAS DEEMED TO BE A REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON, BUT IT HAS NEVER BEEN IMPLEMENTED BECAUSE GOL HAS NOT SEEN FIT TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ASSUMING THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSIBILITIES AND GUARANTEEING ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENTS.)

3. LATEST WFP CONTACT WITH UNRWA	VIENNA BY TELEPHONE TUESDAY
29 MARCH GARDNER	

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: REPORTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, FOODS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 29-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

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Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: EAID, UN, WFP

To: STATE Type: TE

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